

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims, in the subject application:

**Claim 1. (Currently amended)** An automated auction and tender system for effecting electronic transactions between a tender initiator and a tender recipient, comprising:

a storage device for storing information regarding at least one tender of a multi-variable commodity, wherein ~~said~~ the at least one tender having at least one term;

a processing device for generating the at least one tender, wherein ~~said~~ the at least one tender is created by ~~said~~ the tender initiator, and wherein ~~said~~ the at least one tender includes an authorization to receive a request to change ~~said~~ the at least one term of ~~said~~ the multi-variable commodity, ~~said~~ the request being submitted by ~~said~~ the tender recipient;

a communication network for transmitting information, corresponding to ~~said~~ the at least one tender, to ~~said~~ the tender recipient,

~~said~~ the communication network further configured for receiving ~~said~~ the request from ~~said~~ the tender recipient to change ~~said~~ the at least one term of ~~said~~ the at least one tender,

wherein ~~said~~ the at least one term is changed to create an amended tender in response to receiving the request, wherein ~~said~~ the amended tender includes ~~said~~ the at least one term and a changed term,

wherein ~~said tender initiator creates said~~ the amended tender is created upon accepting ~~said~~ the request to change ~~said~~ the at least one term received from ~~said~~ the tender recipient,

wherein ~~said~~ the at least one term of ~~said~~ the at least one tender that is changed relates to a physical characteristic of the complex multi-variable commodity.

**Claims 2 - 3. (Canceled)**

**Claim 4. (Original)** The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device executes a program on a remote device.

**Claim 5. (Original)** The system according to claim 1, wherein the storage device includes a database storing data which is related to the at least one tender.

**Claim 6. (Original)** The system according to claim 5, wherein the database is a relational database.

**Claim 7. (Canceled)**

**Claim 8. (Currently Amended)** The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device:

receives ~~said~~ the stored information, wherein ~~said~~ the stored information includes information for creating ~~said~~ the at least one tender;

analyzes ~~said~~ the stored information to create analyzed information, and

transmits ~~said~~ the analyzed information to a further processing device,

wherein ~~said~~ the analyzed information is transmitted in response to ~~said~~ the stored information.

**Claim 9. (Original)** The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives the information electronically via the Internet.

**Claim 10. (Original)** The system according to claim 1, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives information electronically via a network of further processing devices.

**Claim 11. (Currently amended)** A computer-implemented method for effecting electronic transactions between a tender initiator and a tender recipient, comprising the steps of:

storing, via a storage device in communication with the tender initiator, information regarding at least one tender of a multi-variable commodity having at least one term;

generating, via a processing device in communication with a network server, the at least one tender by the tender initiator, wherein the at least one tender includes an authorization to receive a request to change the at least one term of the multi-variable commodity;

transmitting, via a ~~communications~~ communication network, information corresponding to the at least one tender to the tender recipient;

receiving, via the ~~communications~~ communication network, a request from the tender recipient to change the at least one term,

wherein the at least one term is changed to create an amended tender in response to receiving the request, wherein the amended tender includes the at least one term and a changed term,

wherein ~~the tender initiator creates~~ the amended tender is created upon accepting the request to change the at least one term received from the tender recipient,

~~wherein the at least one term of the at least one tender that is changed by the exception relates to a physical characteristic of the complex multi-variable commodity.~~

wherein ~~said~~ the at least one term of ~~said~~ the at least one tender that is changed relates to a physical characteristic of the complex multi-variable commodity.

**Claims 12-40. (Canceled)**

**Claim 41. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 11, further comprising the step of executing, via the processing device, a program on a remote device.

**Claim 42. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 11, wherein the storage device includes a database storing data which is related to the at least one tender.

**Claim 43. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 42, wherein the database is a relational database.

**Claim 44. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the stored information, wherein the stored information includes information for creating the at least one tender;

analyzing the stored information to create analyzed information, and

transmitting the analyzed information to a further processing device,

wherein the analyzed information is transmitted in response to the stored information.

**Claim 45. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 11, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives the information electronically via the Internet.

**Claim 46. (New)** The computer-implemented method of claim 11, wherein the processing device at least one of transmits and receives information electronically via a network of further processing devices.